8: Testing While Refactoring to Multiple Platforms



When we started developing this cookbook I told you that we were going continue to refactor this cookbook until it supported multiple platforms. We could have started with that goal. Instead we started small. One test. One recipe. Refactor. Add more tests. Refactor. This process allowed us to deliver a reliable cookbook in confident way. But testing was not the only thing that aided us in building this cookbook.

Instrumental to software development and test-driven development is learning how to divide the work into these small increments. Small, deliverable, verifiable steps are essential to developing code with confidence. Now that you have seen and experienced the Test Driven Development (TDD) workflow and understand the basics, the real work that lay before you is to understand how to find these divisions in the requirements you are given.

This was a hand-picked experience. That moves we made may have seemed contrived. As with any knowledge transfer the best we can do is give you a model to play with and hope the forms hold true when it comes time for you to solve a problem with real requirements.

Objectives

After completing this module, you should be able to:

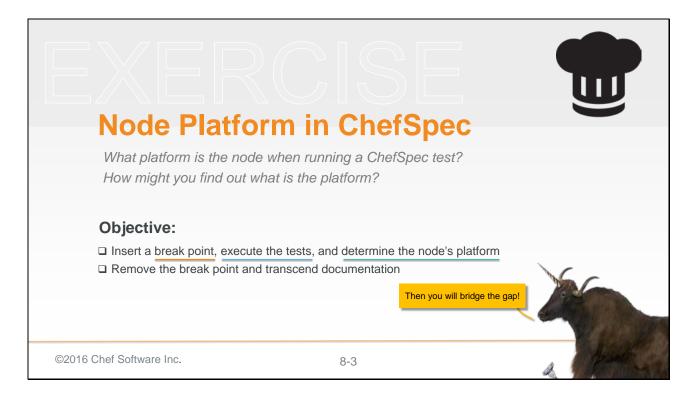
- > Define expectations for multiple platforms
- > Implement a cookbook that supports multiple platforms

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In this module you will learn how to define expectations for multiple platforms and implement a cookbook that supports multiple platforms.

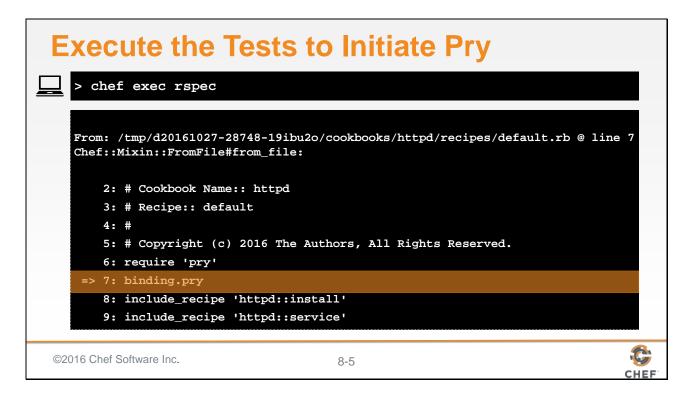


In this module we are going to develop solution in the opposite of the way we started. Instead of approaching this problem from the outside-in we are going to build it inside-out.

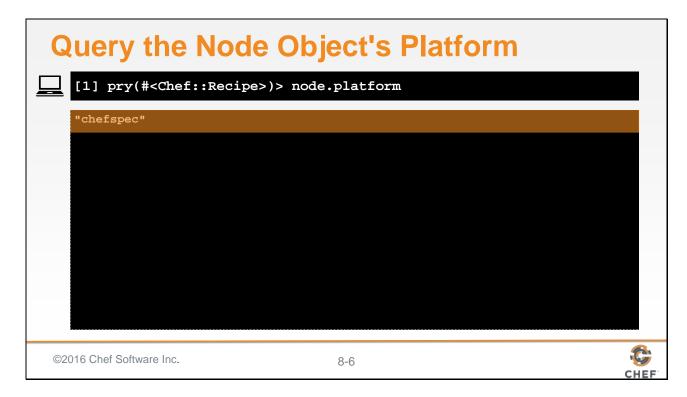
To do that means we are going to leverage the specifications we have written that validate the resources within our recipe. But before we do we need to gather some information that is important. Like the name of the platform we are using?

We could attempt to solve this problem by looking for documentation or a general search on the Internet. Instead we will ask the one source that knows the best: the executing code itself.

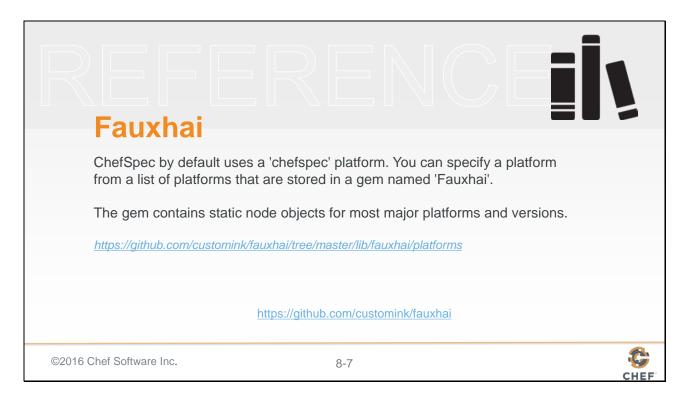
To understand the platform of the node we simply need to set a break point in one of the recipes or the attributes file.



Execute the tests.



And then query the platform of the node object. The results should tell you that the platform for the node object in the ChefSpec environment is 'chefspec'.

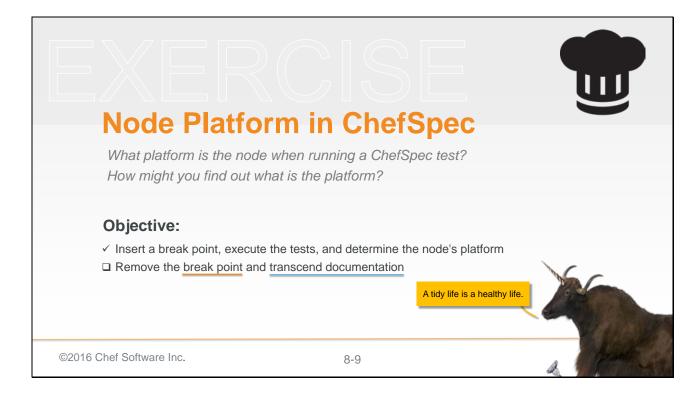


The 'chefspec' platform is set by the ChefSpec gem. The platform has gone unspecified and this is what ChefSpec defaults to use. Now that we care about the platform we need to learn about another gem named Fauxhai. ChefSpec employs Fauxhai to provide fake node object data for various platforms.

These platforms and their various versions are defined in the gem itself. Essentially the gem, at the time of writing this, contains a large number of JSON files which hold the node object results on each specific platform and version it supports. The best way to learn what platforms are provided is to read the source code in the Fauxhai repository.



Now that we know the platform it is time to exit the execution.



Using Pry we were able to learn something about the system without having to rely on documentation. To understand the available platforms you have to rely on reading the source code.

Learning this powerful skill of gathering details will help you solve mysteries and provide more details and queries when searching for help on the Internet. The better you can get at understanding when to employ Pry and how to use it will eventually have you using documentation less and using executing code and source code more.

Instructor Note: Finding out which platforms and versions ChefSpec supported alluded me when first working with the project. There is some mention in the ChefSpec README but I believe I found myself diving into source code and stumbling upon the Fauxhai code. This is something that would be great to show to show learners if you are capable of figuring that out.

```
Remove the Break Point from the Recipe

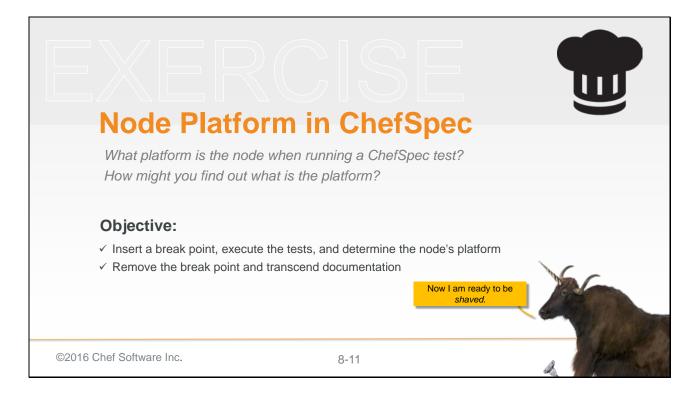
-/httpd/recipes/default.rb

#  # Cookbook Name:: httpd
# Recipe:: default
#  # Copyright (c) 2016 The Authors, All Rights Reserved.

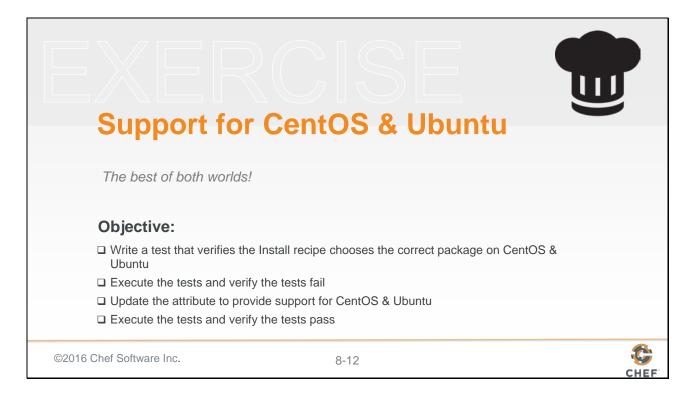
require 'pry'
binding.pry
include_recipe 'httpd::install'
include_recipe 'httpd::service'
```

It is a good habit to clean up this break points. Leaving them around has a nasty habit of pausing the execution of a run you want to see complete uninterrupted.

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Now that we know the environment it is time to get to work on defining those new examples for the new platform that we want to support.



Together let's walk through refactoring the cookbook's install recipe. Like we have done before. When we are done it will be your turn to implement the solution for the remaining recipes.

```
Update the Context to be Platform Specific

-/spec/unit/recipes/install_spec.rb

describe 'httpd::install' do
    context 'When all attributes are default, on CentOS' do
    let(:chef_run) do
    runner = ChefSpec::ServerRunner.new(platform: 'centos', version: '6.7')
    runner.converge(described_recipe)
    end

it 'converges successfully' do
    expect { chef_run }.to_not raise_error
    end

it 'installs the appropriate package' do
    expect(chef_run).to install_package('httpd')
    end
end
# ... SPECIFICATION CONTINUES ON THE NEXT SLIDE ...

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```

First we will start by updating our current specification. The context up to this point has been 'on an unspecified platform'. We want to instead state that these first two examples are for the CentOS platform. That change is purely cosmetic.

The change that matters is the one in which we provide new parameters to the ServerRunner class initializer that state the specific platform and version we are interested in verifying against. If we specify an unsupported platform or platform version we will see an error when the tests execute. This is again why it is important to review the Fauxhai project.

```
Execute the Tests to See it Pass

chef exec rspec spec/unit/recipes/install_spec.rb

Finished in 1.35 seconds (files took 4.51 seconds to load)

examples, 0 failures

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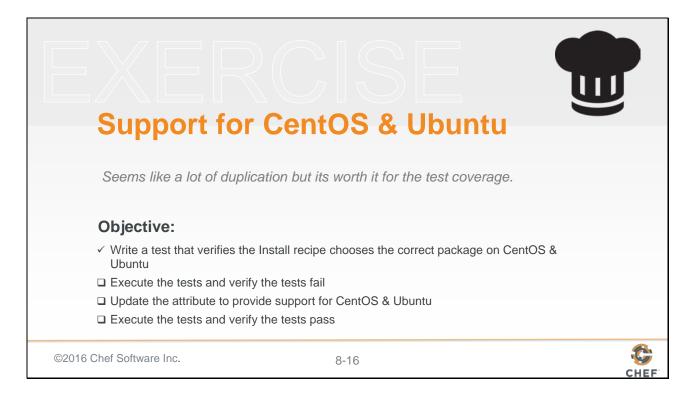
8-14
```

Because we made changes the original expectations it might be a good moment to execute the tests and ensure that everything is still working for the CentOS platform.

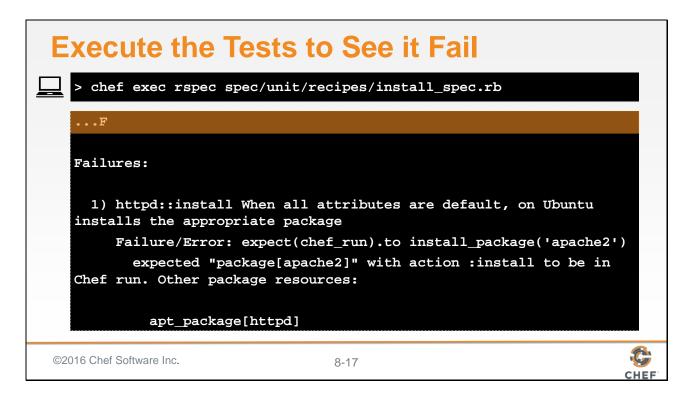
```
Add a Second Context for Another Platform
   ~/spec/unit/recipes/install_spec.rb
    # ... CONTINUED FROM THE PREVIOUS SLIDE ...
    context 'When all attributes are default, on Ubuntu' do
      let(:chef_run) do
       runner = ChefSpec::ServerRunner.new(platform: 'ubuntu', version: '14.04')
       runner.converge(described_recipe)
      it 'converges successfully' do
       expect { chef_run }.to_not raise_error
      it 'installs the necessary package' do
       expect(chef_run).to install_package('apache2')
    end
   end
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                                      8-15
                                                                             CHEF
```

Now return to the specification file and alongside CentOS example group it is time to define the example group that will contain the examples for the Ubuntu 14.04 platform.

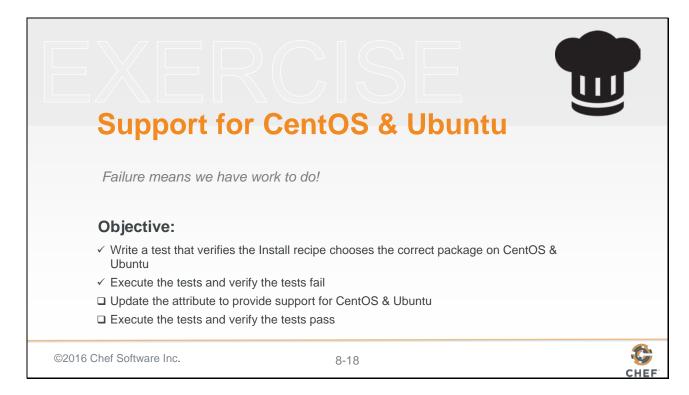
The format is nearly identical between these two example groups save for the context, the parameters specified to the ServerRunner initialization, and the name of the necessary package to install.



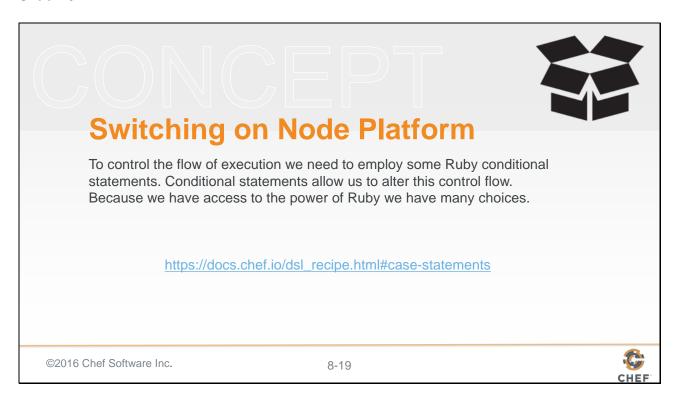
The examples have now been defined for the existing platform and the new platform.



When it comes time to execute the tests we should see that defining the new platform will not raise an error when it converges but will fail to meet the expectation that we installed the correctly named package.



The name of the package is defined in the attributes file. That is what we refactored to support in the last section. It is now time to return to the attributes file and have it specify a different package name based on the platform.



To set the node attribute conditionally based on the platform means we are going to need to control the way that Ruby parses the code based on the state of the node platform. Ruby provides many ways to control the flow and several of them are documented in the recipe Domain Specific Language (DSL).

```
Update the Attributes to Support Platforms

-/httpd/attributes/default.rb

case node['platform']
when 'ubuntu'
default['httpd']['package_name'] = 'apache2'
else
default['httpd']['package_name'] = 'httpd'
end

default['httpd']['package_name'] = 'httpd'
default['httpd']['service_name'] = 'httpd'
default['httpd']['default_index_html'] = '/var/www/html/index.html'

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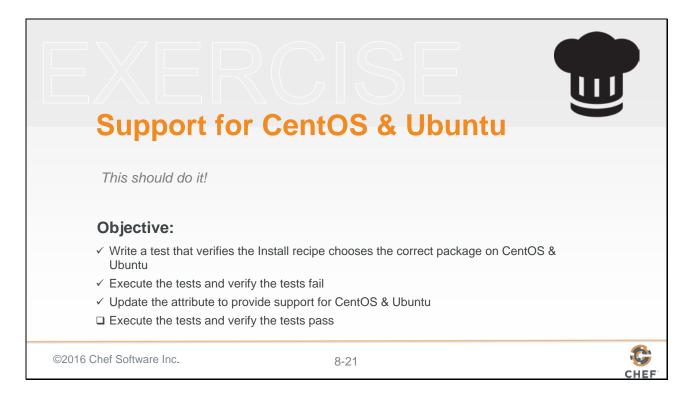
8-20
```

A very common way is to define a case statement. The case statement allows you to provide a value or value stored in a variable to the case keyword. Then following the case statement are a number of 'when' statements. Each 'when' needs to be provided with a value or value stored in a variable. If the value in the case statement equals the value in when statement then it is match and the flow of execution will take that path and ignore all others.

If none were to match we might be in trouble as the node attribute would never be set so we can use an 'else' statement which is as good as saying if none of those match then use this path.

The order of the case statement is particularly important as well. The first match that is made is the path the execution will take.

Instructor Note: When we say 'equal' each other we mean that Ruby is comparing the objects together with the equality method, the triple equals (===) .



Now that the attributes file has been updated it is time execute the tests again and see if we defined this conditional logic correctly.

```
Execute the Tests to See it Pass

chef exec rspec spec/unit/recipes/install_spec.rb

finished in 1.35 seconds (files took 4.51 seconds to load)

examples, 0 failures

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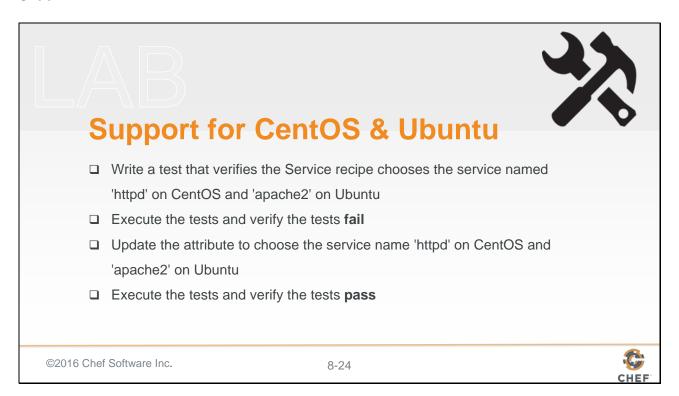
8-22
```

Executing the tests we should see both platforms will converge without error and install the necessary packages.



This approach to leverage the existing examples and use them to help define new examples for a new platform allowed us to build confidence through testing from the inside-out.

Taking this inside-out approach can feel right in situations where you know the steps you have to take.



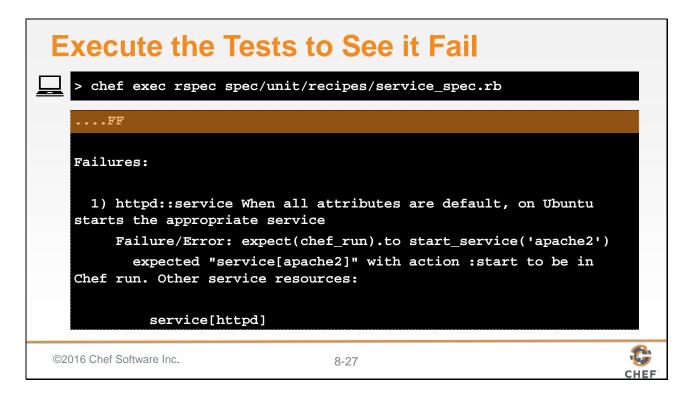
Now as an exercise for you it is time to do the same thing for the service recipe. The service for Ubuntu is named 'apache2'. Start with the changes to the specifications, move through see the failure, update to use the same conditional statement structure and then see the examples verify your work.

Instructor Note: Allow 10 minutes to complete this exercise

Let's review the changes to the service specification. You start with ensuring the existing CentOS platform is explicitly stated in the context and defined in the parameters provided to the ServerRunner initialization.

```
Add a Second Context for Another Platform
  ~/spec/unit/recipes/service_spec.rb
     # ... CONTINUED FROM THE PREVIOUS SLIDE ...
     context 'When all attributes are default, on Ubuntu' do
      let(:chef_run) do
        runner = ChefSpec::ServerRunner.new(platform: 'ubuntu', version: '14.04')
        runner.converge(described_recipe)
      # ... it converges successfully ...
      it 'starts the appropriate service' do
        expect(chef_run).to start_service('apache2')
      it 'enables the appropriate service' do
        expect(chef_run).to enable_service('apache2')
     end
   end
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                                      8-26
                                                                              CHEF
```

You now define an entire example group dedicated to the Ubuntu platform which defines the same structure of examples but with the values that are important for the platform.



Executing the test you would see the appropriate failures for the correctly named services not being started and enabled.

```
Update the Attribute to Support Platforms

-/httpd/attributes/default.rb

case node['platform']
when 'ubuntu'
default['httpd']['package_name'] = 'apache2'
default['httpd']['service_name'] = 'apache2'
else
default['httpd']['package_name'] = 'httpd'
default['httpd']['service_name'] = 'httpd'
end

default['httpd']['service_name'] = 'httpd'
default['httpd']['default_index_html'] = '/var/www/html/index.html'

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```

Updating the attributes for the service should be a little less work because the structure is all in place.

```
Execute the Tests to See it Pass

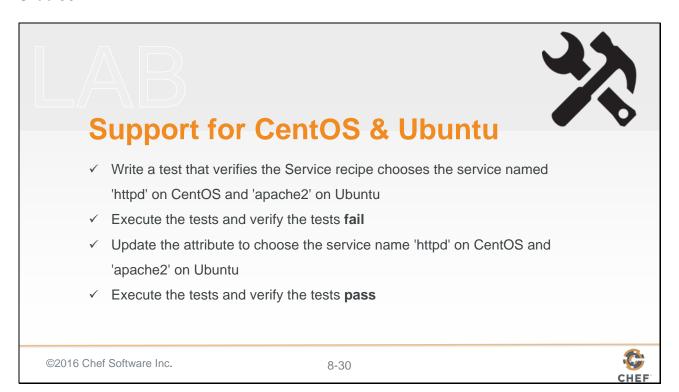
chef exec rspec spec/unit/recipes/service_spec.rb

finished in 1.84 seconds (files took 4.22 seconds to load)

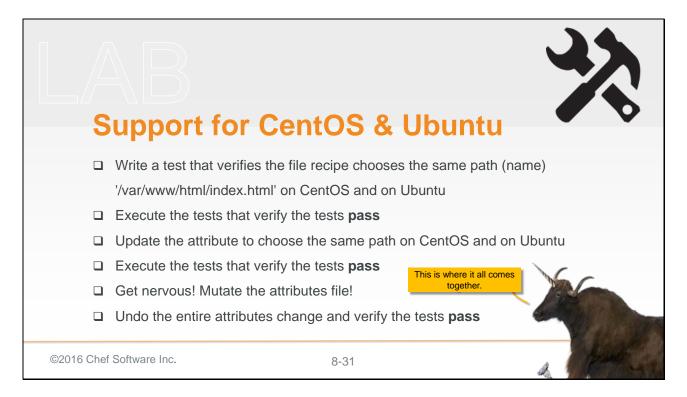
examples, 0 failures

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```

Finally when we execute the tests again we see that all the examples pass.



That was nearly identical and a good way to reinforce the testing flow.



Now only the configuration recipe remains. The default index HTML page for Ubuntu and CentOS are exactly the same. So when you define the new examples you actually will not see the failure. Then when you make the changes to the attributes file you will not see the failure. At that point you have written two new examples for the Ubuntu platform and it is important to ensure those tests fail. So pick a mutation (e.g. remove a line or specify an incorrect value) for the Ubuntu flow and ensure you see the failure.

Finally take a look at the code that you have created and ask yourself is that change better?

Instructor Note: Allow 10 minutes to complete this exercise

```
Update the Context to be Platform Specific

-/spec/unit/recipes/configuration_spec.rb

describe 'httpd::configuration' do
    context 'When all attributes are default, on CentOS' do
    let(:chef_run) do
        runner = ChefSpec::ServerRunner.new(platform: 'centos', version: '6.7')
        runner.converge(described_recipe)
    end
    # ... it converges successfully ...

it 'creates a default index html page' do
    expect(chef_run).to create_file('/var/www/html/index.html')
    end

# ... SPECIFICATION CONTINUES ON THE NEXT SLIDE ...
```

Same as before we start with some maintenance of CentOS examples.

You then define another example group dedicated to the Ubuntu platform. Except this time the expectation is exactly the same.

```
Execute the Tests to See it Pass

- chef exec rspec spec/unit/recipes/configuration_spec.rb

----

Finished in 1.84 seconds (files took 4.22 seconds to load)

4 examples, 0 failures

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8-34
```

Executing the tests shows you that everything is working.

```
Update the Attribute to Support Platforms

-/httpd/attributes/default.rb

case node['platform']
when 'ubuntu'
default['httpd']['package_name'] = 'apache2'
default['httpd']['service_name'] = 'apache2'
default['httpd']['default_index_html'] = '/var/www/html/index.html'
else
default['httpd']['package_name'] = 'httpd'
default['httpd']['service_name'] = 'httpd'
default['httpd']['default_index_html'] = '/var/www/html/index.html'
end

default['httpd']['default_index_html'] = '/var/www/html/index.html'

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8-35
```

You implemented the change that we have done before.

```
Execute the Tests to See it Pass

> chef exec rspec spec/unit/recipes/configuration_spec.rb

....

Finished in 1.84 seconds (files took 4.22 seconds to load)

4 examples, 0 failures

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8-36
```

And finally see the tests pass again. This is where you should become uncomfortable that we may have a false positive and that is a good time to ensure that you do not by mutating the code.

```
Update the Attribute to Support Platforms

-/httpd/attributes/default.rb

case node['platform']
when 'ubuntu'
default['httpd']['package_name'] = 'apache2'
default['httpd']['service_name'] = 'apache2'
default['httpd']['default_index_html'] = '/var/www/html/index.html2'
else
default['httpd']['package_name'] = 'httpd'
default['httpd']['service_name'] = 'httpd'
default['httpd']['default_index_html'] = '/var/www/html/index.html'
end

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```

So anywhere in the Ubuntu flow of execution make a small mutation. In the example I am providing I have chosen a different path. Removing the attribute is another option as well.

```
Execute the Tests to See it Pass

> chef exec rspec spec/unit/recipes/configuration_spec.rb

...F

Finished in 1.84 seconds (files took 4.22 seconds to load)

4 examples, 1 failures

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8-38
```

Executing the tests should net at least one failure and that should give you more confidence that the expectations you have written are doing the work you want them to do.

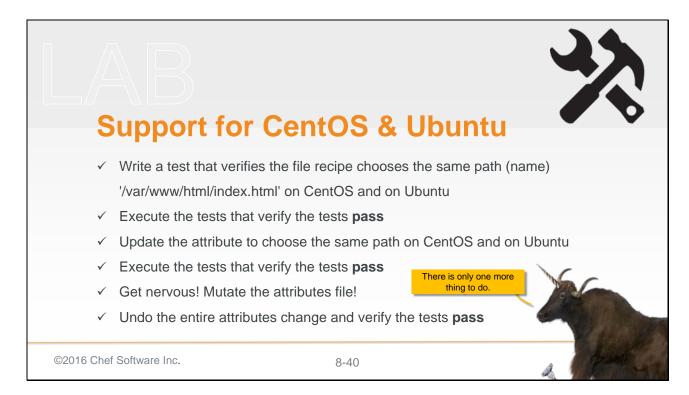
```
Update the Attribute to Support Platforms
  ~/httpd/attributes/default.rb
   case node['platform']
  when 'ubuntu'
    default['httpd']['package_name'] = 'apache2'
    default['httpd']['service_name'] = 'apache2'
    default['httpd']['default index html'] = '/var/www/html/index.html'
   else
    default['httpd']['package_name'] = 'httpd'
    default['httpd']['service_name'] = 'httpd'
    default['httpd']['default_index_html'] = '/var/www/html/index.html'
  end
  default['httpd']['default_index_html'] = '/var/www/html/index.html'
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                                     8-39
                                                                            CHEF
```

Finally you might restore the code. Removing the mutation.

You may even choose to undo the change the proposed change. This is up to you to make the decision. In the example shown here I have returned to the original implementation. The original implementation worked, executing our tests proved it. Whether you should leave the attribute defined in the case statement or outside of it is up to you.

Leaving it in the case statements ensures that all values are defined on the platform. If a value on a particular platform were to change we would simply need to only change it within that platform's flow of control. However, if you never implement another platform you have created two lines of code. Some may argue the fewer lines of code you issue or statements you place inside of a conditional make it easier to read and understand.

The most important thing is that the examples you defined should remain in the specification regardless of the implementation. The examples describe the expected behavior of the platform.



Congratulations!

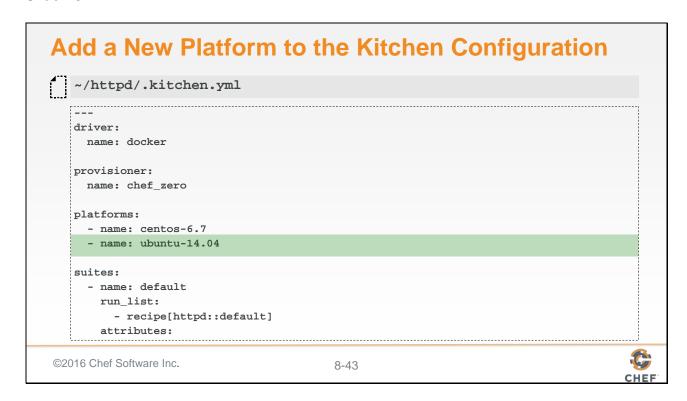


Now that we have finished building everything from the inside-out. It is finally time to see if the integration test works. This is important. When building recipes with ChefSpec you can very quickly make mistakes. Those mistakes are not the typos or omissions we have made. These are the mistakes that only the platform can catch.

Because we have been doing everything in-memory we really do not know if the package name, file path, or service name actually works. The only way to prove that is to apply the recipe to that platform.



So for our last and final exercise together lets update the Kitchen configuration to give us the ability to test on the Ubuntu platform.

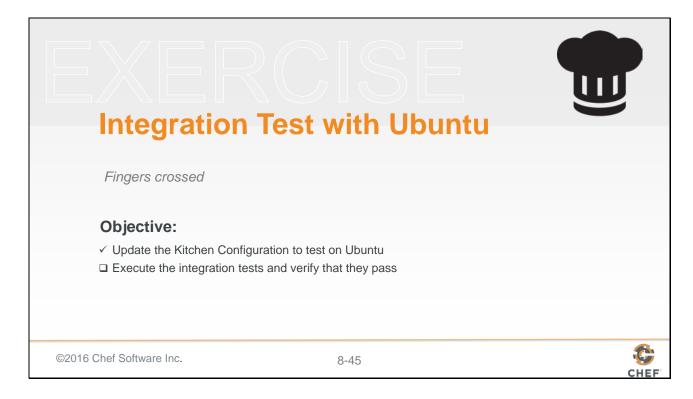


Within the kitchen configuration we define the new Ubuntu 14.04 platform.

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We verify that the platform exists within the list of instances.



And now it is time to execute the test suite. By choosing a very valuable and implementation free ServerSpec example, is the website up and running in localhost, we can be fairly certain that the expectations should be met.

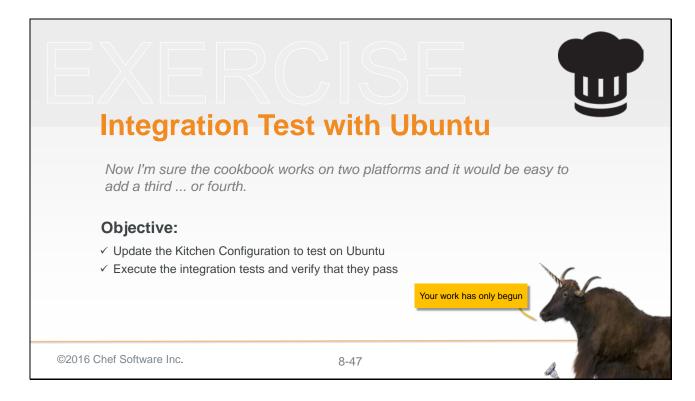
```
Execute the Tests for All Platforms

> kitchen test

----> Starting Kitchen (v1.4.2)
----> Cleaning up any prior instances of <default-centos-67>
----> Destroying <default-centos-67>...
Finished destroying <default-centos-67> (0m0.00s).
----> Testing <default-centos-67>
----> Creating <default-centos-67>...
```

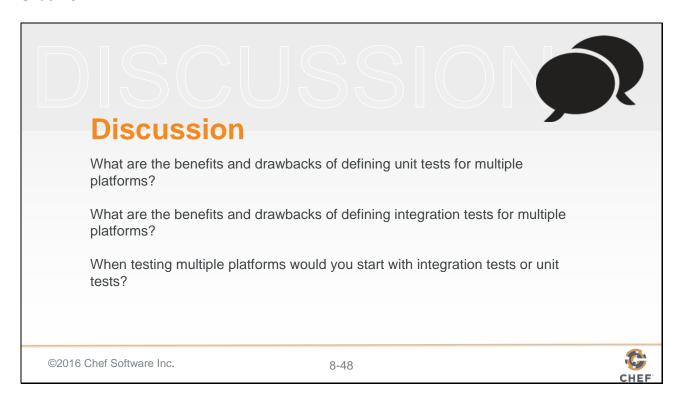
To execute the tests against both platforms run 'kitchen test'. Because we have two instances and did not specify a particular instance with the command it will run tests against all the listed instances.

This might be a good time to get up and move around as it will take some time.



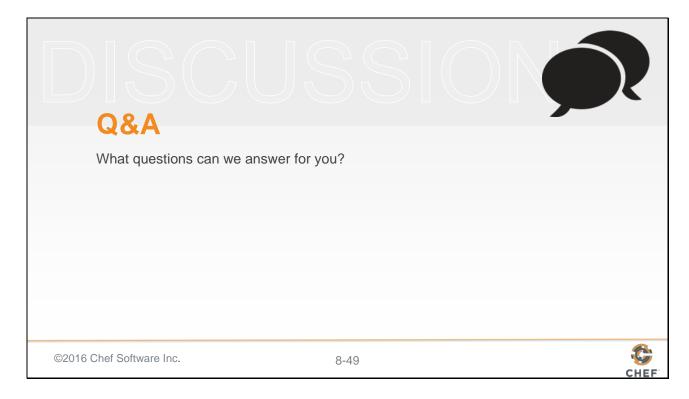
The expectations should pass and this brings the last exercise to a close.

Let's have a discussion.



Instructor Note: With large groups I often find it better to have individuals turn to the individuals around them, form groups of whatever size they feel comfortable, and have them take turns asking and answering the questions. When all the groups are done I then open the discussion up to the entire group allowing each group or individuals to share their answers.

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Before we complete this section, let us pause for questions.

Slide 50



Thank you for your time and attention.

